INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF AFFINITY

Opinion
We have audited the financial statements of Affinity for the year ended 31 December 2019, which comprise the income and expenditure account, balance sheet, cashflow statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 ‘The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland’ (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:
• give a true and fair view of the state of the Union's affairs as at year ending 31 December 2019;
• have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
• have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.

Basis of opinion
We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Union in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC’s Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern
We have nothing to report in this regard.

Other information
The union’s members, as a body, is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the business review, other than the financial statements and our auditor’s report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception
We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 and the Trade Union Reform and Employment Rights Act 1993 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:
• adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
• the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
• the revenue account to which our report relates, and the balance sheet are not in agreement with the books of account of the union; or
• we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
• certain disclosures within the form AR21 of Officers’ remuneration specified by law are not made.

Respective responsibilities of the officers and auditors
The Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 and the Trade Union Reform and Employment Rights Act 1993 require the union’s officers to keep proper accounting records which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the union and explain its transactions, to establish and maintain a satisfactory system of control of the accounting records, cash holding and all the receipts and remittance and to prepare an annual return for the Certification Office giving a true and fair view of the revenue account and balance sheet and provide members of the union with a statement of income and expenditure for the year.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor’s report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council’s website at: http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor’s report.

Use of our report
This report is made solely to the union's members, as a body. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the union’s members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor’s report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the union and the union’s members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

CROUCHER NEEDHAM (ESSEX) LLP CHARTERED CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANTS STATUTORY AUDITOR
Market House, 10 Market Walk, Saffron Walden, Essex, CB10 1JZ
FINANCE
In accordance with the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 as amended by the Employment Relations Act 1999 we set out the following statement:

1. Contributions and subscriptions for 2019 £2,193,519
2. Other income £1,809
3. Total income £2,195,328
4. Total expenditure £2,249,140
5. Salaries and benefits paid to Officers. The salary and benefits paid to the Union’s General Secretary were as follows: Salary £103,017, Employers NI contributions £17,171, Car benefit £18,000, Pension Contributions £12,978. The salary and benefits paid to the Union’s Chairman were as follows: Salary £20,000, Employers NI contributions £1,577, Car Benefit £nil, Pension Contributions £nil. The salary and benefits paid to the Union’s Vice Chairman were as follows: Salary £35,583, Employers NI contributions £4,404, Car Benefit £3,000, Pension Contributions £1,150.

STATUTORY STATEMENT
We are required by the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 as amended by the Employment Relations Act 1999 to include the following statement in this circular to all members. The wording is as prescribed by the Act.

“"A member who is concerned that some irregularity may be occurring, or have occurred, in the conduct of the financial affairs of the union may take steps with a view to investigating further, obtaining clarification and, if necessary, securing regularisation of that conduct. The member may raise any such concern with such one or more of the following as it seems appropriate to raise it with: the officials of the union, the trustees of the property of the union, the auditor or auditors of the union, the Certification Officer (who is an independent officer appointed by the Secretary of State) and the police. Where a member believes that the financial affairs of the union have been or are being conducted in breach of the law or in breach of the rules of the union and contemplates bringing civil proceedings against the union or responsible officials or trustees, he should consider obtaining independent legal advice.”